DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 168 746 RC 011 115

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TITLE A Profile of Anson County, North Carolina.
SPONS AGENCY Cooperative State Research Service (DOA), Washington, D.C.; North Carolina State Univ., Raleigh. Agricultural Experiment Station.
PUB DATE Jan 79
NOTE 26p.; Publication contributes to USDA Cooperative State Research Service Southern Regional Projects S-120, "Social Organization for Development of Low Income Rural Counties"; Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Southern Association of Agricultural Scientists (76th, New Orleans, Louisiana, February 4-7, 1979)

EDRS PRICE MF01/PC02 Plus Postage.
DESCRIPTORS Agricultural Production; *Area Studies; *Community Leaders; *Community Problems; Community Relations; Community Services; Demography; *Economic Development; Educational Needs; *Employment Patterns; Geography; Industrialization; Local History; Migration Patterns; Power Structure; Quality of Life; Rural Areas; *Rural Development; Rural Economics
IDENTIFIERS *North Carolina (Anson County); Textile Industry; Topography

ABSTRACT

Since 1950 Anson County, North Carolina, has had major contributions to economic development, a source of great concern to residents of the almost entirely rural area. The increased capacity of the Blewitt Falls Dam power output and the county-wide water filtration system (one of only a few in the United States today) are attractive to industry. There has been a huge local effort to bring about economic development through formation of the Anson County Chamber of Commerce and Industrial Commissions and through the work of the Anson County Economic Development Task Force, which has six strategies: expansion of industry; development of community services and quality of life; commercial development; expansion of agricultural enterprises; development of human resources; and possible development of a solar energy research site. The shift in the economic base from farm to industry is evident in occupation and income source statistics as well as the county's leadership structure, which has an increasingly active business and industrial sector. Interviewed in 1977, 19 local leaders like Anson County because of: residents' attitudes towards others; climate and geography; quality of life; and economic aspects. Problem areas they note are economic expansion, improved availability of community services, improvement of education, and improved community relations. (SB)

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A Profile of Anson County, North Carolina

North Carolina State University
The North Carolina Agricultural Research Service
Department of Sociology and Anthropology

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S-120 Technical Committee
Social Organization for Development
of Low-Income Rural Counties

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Profile - Objectives A and B

Anson County
North Carolina

Presented at the 76th Annual Meeting of the Southern Association of Agricultural Scientists, New Orleans, Louisiana, 4-7 February 1979.
January 1979

RC 011115

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

County Inception

Anson County is located on the southern border of North Carolina where rolling hills of the Piedmont and the Sandhills meet. During the decade between 1730 and 1740, white settlers first moved into this area. The first settlement in what is now Anson County was established about 1740. By 1745, a trickle of migrants moved into the area, and by 1748 to 1750, this trickle became a stream of individuals comprised mostly of German, Ulster Scot, Welsh and French ethnic backgrounds. In addition, the area was also populated by the Siouan Indians, mainly the Catawba tribe who were noted for savage fighting with other tribes, but who maintained an amazingly conflict-free and friendly co-existence with the white settlers.

Prior to 1750, Anson County was a part of Bladen County, a large area of land which spanned clear to the Mississippi River. This initial government organization proved to exert undue hardships upon the Anson settlers in that a trip of over 100 miles was necessary to travel to the seat of government in Bladen. Residents complained, and rightfully so, that a nearer court was much needed. Roads were little more than Indian footpaths and streams which were swollen much of the year made travel hazardous. Consequently, a petition was filed with the Council in New Bern on December 28, 1748, asking Royal Governor Gabriel Johnston to establish a county along the Pee Dee River. Dates vary, but most historians agree that the county was created either in late 1749 or early in 1750.

The new county was called Anson after the Lord George Anson, a colorful British Admiral. Lord Anson owned extensive land holdings

throughout the Carolinas. A popular and entertaining individual, he was credited with establishing the famed affluent residential area of Ansonborough in Colonial Charleston prior to his appointment as First Lord of the Admiralty, and a seat on the King's Privy Council in 1749.

Stretching from Downing Creek, the western border of Moore County, through present-day Western North Carolina and the state of Tennessee to the Mississippi River, and bounded on the south by South Carolina and the north by Virginia and Lord Granville's District, Anson County was a massive territory. However, the county began to approximate its present size when in 1753, Rowan County was carved out. In 1762, Mecklenberg County was annexed, and in 1789 North Carolina ceded all territory lying between the Alleghenies and the Mississippi, which became the state of Tennessee in 1796.

Major Changes Since Creation

The history of a county is often characterized with events that can exert an influence on local relations and conditions that exist during the present and Anson is no exception. Anson was noted as a part of a number of Piedmont North Carolina counties which were very vocal and active during the American Revolution. In 1768, ninety-nine individuals signed the Anson Regulator Protest Paper which sought tax and local government reform. Additionally, Anson Loyalists were defeated at the Battle of Moore's Creek Bridge, the state's first Revolutionary conflict. In 1783, New Town (now Wadesboro) was chartered and became the county seat. As noted, 1789, saw Anson County territory west of the Alleghenies ceded to the United States.

The year 1833 is important in that a massive migration of Ansonians to Tennessee and Mississippi occurred due to falling crop prices. By 1847, public schools were in operation in the county bringing education to many Ansonians. A major event which would serve to bring a decade or more of prosperity to the county occurred with the construction of plank roads in 1849 improving cross-country transportation. By 1850, the first bank of Wadesborough was organized and the county's first newspaper, the North Carolina Argus was published.

In 1874, the first railroad service into Anson County began, and in 1890 negotiations were started for the Singleton Silk Mill Manufacturing Company, the county's first textile mill and the first silk mill in the south. Another important event occurred with the first phases of construction of what was to become the Blewitt Falls Dam in 1905. This is still in operation today. The year 1919 saw the opening of Anson's first hospital, the Anson Sanitorium. Electricity reached many rural Ansonians for the first time with the chartering of the Pee Dee Electric Membership Corporation in 1938. An important economic event occurred with the opening of the Anson County Water System's $4,000,000 purification plant in 1969 which serves as a water source for residences and industry throughout much of the county.*

Topography and Geography

Present-day Anson County comprises a total land area of 533 square miles or roughly 339,000 acres. It is characterized by rolling hills and shaded waterways. Agricultural in scope, Anson is, however, slightly

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*This historical sketch is largely gleamed from Mary L. Medley's History of Anson County, North Carolina: 1750-1976, Wadesboro, N. C., Anson County Historical Society, 1976.

more than two-thirds forest and water. Major crops include cattle, hogs, soybeans, peaches, some cereal and feed crops, and tree farming. It possesses an annual average temperature of 61°F with the average coldest month being January (42.5°F) and the average warmest month being July (78.9°F). The annual average rainfall is 45.28 inches.

Demographic Sketch

In 1950, Anson County reached its highest population with 26,781 inhabitants. Since then, each census has revealed a decline in population, a -12.69 percent decrease from 1950 to 1970 (Table 1). The 1975 estimated population is 24,000, up slightly from the official 1970 figure of 23,488.

Out-migration of Anson County residents is apparently behind the above figures. When one reviews the population counts of whites versus non-whites over the twenty-five year span noted in the data, non-whites characterize the bulk of this population decline (Table 2). This is in keeping with much of the region where non-whites make up the majority of out-migrants who moved to seek greater employment opportunities in the industrial sectors of the nation. However, the slight increase in population from 1970 to 1975 indicates a possible reversal of this trend.

According to the census counts, there exists an almost equal distribution of whites and non-whites (predominantly Negro) in Anson County. In 1950, whites made up 52.1 percent of the population while in 1970, they comprised 53.4 percent, an increase of only 1.3 percent. As indicated earlier, even though nonwhites experienced greater out-migration over the 20 years (-16.53% for nonwhite to -10.36% for whites), white out-migration was at a level high enough to maintain the 1950 differences. Thus, although nonwhite population losses were larger

(-2,061) than whites (-1,412), the difference between the two racial groups in out-migration was not significant enough to markedly alter the population composition of Anson County in 1970 when compared to that of 1950.

Anson County is almost entirely rural. In 1950, it was 87.3 percent rural, 12,801 were "rural farm" and 10,578 "rural non-farm" (Table 3). This rural population decreased to 83.1 percent in 1970 representing a 4.2 percent decrease over the 20 years (Table 4).

In spite of out-migration, Anson County remains, as of 1970, heavily populated by younger people. Nearly 53 percent of the population is under 29 years of age. The county has a senior citizen population (65 and over) of nearly 16.1 percent (Table 5).

The county mirrors the nation with regard to the percentage of males to females. In 1950, males constituted 48.7 percent of the population to 47.9 percent in 1970. Males in 1970, comprised 47.8 percent of the total population (Table 6).

In 1970, Anson County adults (over 25) had experienced an increase in the median school years completed. For male citizens in 1950, the average was 7.0 years while for females, it was 7.9, a difference of only 0.9 years. However, 1970, saw males only increasing to 8.7 years, whereas, females jumped to 10.0, a difference of 1.3 years. Greater educational opportunities for females via college and post-graduate work could be a possible explanation for such an increase (See Table 7).

Lastly, dependency ratios were calculated for each of the three censal years. These figures show an odd fluctuation over the twenty-year span studied. For example, in 1950, the figure for Anson was

73.0, whereas, in 1960, it was calculated to be 83.9, while in 1970, it decreased to 71.1. Thus, a twenty-year decrease of only 1.87 is misleading when the 1960 figure is considered. Possible explanations are many and too time-consuming to pursue here. Suffice it to say, Anson County experienced radical shifts in the number of dependents over the twenty-year span.

MAJOR DEVELOPMENTS SINCE 1950

Economic

Anson County has traditionally depended upon textiles and agriculture for its economic base. In 1973 (See Table 8), of those manufacturing firms employing 25 or more employees, 17 of the 21 firms listed were textile oriented, employing approximately 2500 individuals (3,708 were employed in manufacturing throughout the county in 1973). Agriculturally, Anson's main cash crops include cattle, hogs, soybeans, peaches, some cereal and feed crops, and tree farming, employing about 850 individuals in 1970 (Table 9). Other major manufacturing concerns include sand and gravel, metal working, and mobile home construction.

Employment figures since 1950 present a picture of rising industry in the county (Table 12). For example, in 1950, 38.0 percent of the labor force was employed in manufacturing and related occupations. In 1960, this figure increased to 44.4 percent representing an increase of 6.4 percent while in 1970 the figure was 46.0 percent, an increase over the 1960 figure of 1.6 percent, a total increase of 8.0 percent since 1950. In 1972, 3,262 individuals were employed in manufacturing with a payroll of $5,504,000. This figure increased the next year to 3,708 employed with a payroll of $6,292,000.

Other than the heavy emphasis on the textile industry, Anson County has had strong ties with the retail chain stores sector. The Efird Company was founded in 1901 by Hugh M. Efird, J. B. Efird, and Ed L. Efird, sons of the late Mr. and Mrs. John E. Efird of the Burnsville Township. The Company had outlets in Virginia, North Carolina and South Carolina, and numbered 50 stores when sold to the Belk Company in the 1950's.

The Belk Company has roots in Anson County through Dr. John Montgomery Belk, a practicing physician from Morven in Southern Anson County, who joined his brother William Henry Belk in founding the corporation. By 1973, the Belk chain comprised 419 stores in nineteen states and Puerto Rico. Two other corporations, the Leggett Stores and B. C. Moore, Inc., also have their roots in Anson County.

Two major developments in Anson County have also contributed to the economic expansion of the county. One such development was the Blewitt Falls Dam. Built at the turn of the century, the dam represented the major source of electrical power for Anson County residents. In 1971, the Carolina Power and Light Company increased the capacity of the dam's turbine generators to 93,000 kilowatts. Such a move increased the capacity of the plant to accommodate a greater and diversified industry over and above previous capacities.

Another, and perhaps more significant, event was the construction of a county-wide water filtration system from 1969-71. Situated along the banks of the Pee Dee within sight of the Blewitt Falls Dam, this $4.4 million dollar structure is capable of supplying water not only for the county as a whole, but also to neighboring counties as well. A source of county pride, this system, is one of few such that exist in the United States today.

Local Efforts to Bring About Development

As noted in the preceding section, the increased capacity of the Blewitt Falls Dam power output and the construction of the county-wide water filtration system represent two major efforts to bring about development in Anson County. The availability of electrical power and treated water are major contributions in any effort to entice industries that require large quantities of such into locating in a particular area. However, other efforts at development can also be noted since 1950.

One such example is the formation of the Anson County Chamber of Commerce and Industrial Commissions. The developmental efforts of both organizations is mirrored in the concerns of the Anson County Economic Development Task Force. This task force seeks to promote development in Anson County through six major strategies. One is to seek economic development through industrial expansion and new industry. Second, it promotes economic development through developing community services and improving quality of living (medical, county sewer system, county garbage collection, housing, four-lane expansion of US 74, and recreation). Third, it attempts to achieve development through commercial development (shopping centers, central business district renewal, etc.). A fourth strategy is the expansion of agricultural enterprises such as food processing plants, grain storage, and marketing facilities. Fifth is development through the conservation and development of human resources by slowing out-migration of young people, upgrading educational attainment, etc. Finally, there exists an invitation for the Energy Research and Development Agency to consider Anson County as a possible solar energy research site and for the Task Force to work closely or jointly with the town of Wadesboro in defining objectives for economic

development, both short and long range. As of this writing, information is yet unavailable as to the success of this Task Force in achieving these objectives. However, such an effort indicates the level of concern for development held by Anson County residents.

ECONOMIC PROFILE AND CHANGES SINCE 1950

Principal Sources of Income for County Households

Table 13 depicts the distribution of income sources for Anson County families in 1970. The principal source of income for county families is that derived from wage and salary earnings. In numbers, 4,805 families received a mean wage of $6,457. Obviously, such a statistic should not be surprising given the number of individuals in the county who are engaged in occupations such as textiles, construction, and sales. The second highest source of income resided in non-farm self-employment income. Here 659 families received a mean income of only $2,832. Thus, industry and non-farm self-employment types of occupations provided the principle source of income for Anson County inhabitants.

Median Income and Extent of Poverty

The median family income of Anson County residents since 1950 has consistently been lower than that reported for the state of North Carolina as a whole. Although the 1950 figures show Anson enjoying a slight advantage over the state (See Table 10), the figures for 1960 and 1970 show a reversal. For example, in 1950 the mean family income in Anson was $1,371 to $1,293 for the state while in 1960 it was $2,763 and $3,956 respectively. This trend holds for 1970 as well with Anson having a mean family income of $6,013 to $7,774 for the state. Thus, in the years since 1950, the county has fallen behind in family income when compared to the entire state.

Related to the information provided by the mean family income figures, data were collected denoting the percent of those families whose income was less than the poverty level for 1970 (Table 11). In Anson County, 27.2 percent of the families were considered below the poverty level. These families had a mean income of $2,010 which represents a mean income deficit of $1,803. For the state as a whole, only 16.3 percent of the families were below the poverty level. Hence, it can be concluded that Anson County families have a greater liklihood of experiencing poverty when compared to families throughout the state.

Major Industry of Employment

As noted previously, textiles and related industries comprise the major industry of employment in Anson County. Of the 3,628 individuals employed in manufacturing, 2,174 of those were employed in textiles in 1970. This represents 82.7 percent of the total work force employed in manufacturing. Furniture and lumber and wood products employed the next highest number with 529 or 14.6 percent of the 3,628 employed.

Major Occupational Groups

Many changes have occurred since 1950 in the composition of Anson's occupational groups (See Table 12). For example, in 1950, 2,110 people were farmers and farm managers or 25.2 percent of those employed. However, in 1960, only 912 were in this group representing 11.4 percent and in 1970 this figure plunged to 206 or only 2.5 percent. At the same time, craftsmen and foremen were on the rise from 671 (8.0%) in 1960 to 1,126 (13.5%) in 1970. Also, showing an increase, was the category of clerical and sales workers (from 3.5% in 1950 to 8.5% in 1970) and operatives and kindred workers (from 23.3% in 1950 to 35.8% in 1970). These changes

are characteristic of much that has occurred in the south historically where more and more individuals are turning away from farming as a career to industrially-related occupations.

LOCAL PERCEPTIONS OF COUNTY AT PRESENT

Data Source and Description

The field work phase of the S-120 Regional Project, "Social Organization for Development of Low-Income Rural Counties," began during the summer of 1977. In Anson County, the main source of nomination for respondent-influentials came from interviews with positional leaders and various county citizens and newspapers. This modified snowball sample technique yielded a list of 29 individuals who were considered by the respondents to exert the most influence on county affairs.

During the latter part of the summer, 24 of the 29 individuals were interviewed concerning their involvement in various developmental events and their development contacts with other individuals. The interviews also included questions on the respondent's perceptions of the county.

In addition, each respondent was asked to indicate what he or she liked about Anson County. All responses have been grouped into five basic categories which are shown in Table 14. Relationships with or Attitudes Toward Others were indicated 25 times and ranked number one as what is liked about Anson County. Examples which are contained in this category are: "warmness of the people," "sincerity of the people," and "attempt to live in harmony with each other."

Ranking second in what the respondents like about Anson County are answers about the Geography and Climate with 16 mentions. Typical responses in this category include: "location, being close to ocean, mountains, and Charlotte," and "beautiful spot."

Those responses categorized as Quality of Life occurred third most often among the people interviewed with 14 mentions. Responses in this category could be reasonable inferred as being influenced by attitudes which predominate in the first two categories. Several respondents liked the "rural setting and quiet atmosphere" as well as "the ease of life" in the county. In addition, other respondents noted such things as the "slow and easy life found here" and "lack of population congestion"

The fourth category was one that is designated as Economic Aspects. Responses in this category varied and numbered nine responses. Such responses as: "the challenge the county presents for development," "employment opportunities," and, "diverse agriculture," are indicative of the direction to which the majority of the responses took.

Mentioned least frequently are five answers included in a category designated as Area and Family Ties. This category emphasizes family ties and inter-generational stability. For example, responses such as "it's home, has been for five generations," and, "I feel needed in this area," are indicative of responses in this category.

Those interviewed in the July survey were asked to name the three most important needs or problems of Anson County. These are shown in Table 15. The area receiving the highest score is Economic. Many of the respondents simply indicated that more industry is needed. However, many felt that although industrial expansion was needed, not just any industry was acceptable. Some respondents suggested that more retail and commercial services were needed while others felt that the availability of jobs was strongly related to the need for more industry.

Improvement in the availability of various Health, Social and Public Services were ranked as Anson's second most important series of needs. Specific suggestions in this area included, "more doctors and/or dentists," "an improved water system," and, "consumer services."

The third most important need mentioned was Education. There was concern over the availability of increased funding as well as the usefulness of existing educational facilities.

The fourth need in importance had to do with a series of responses titled Community Relations. Race relations among community segments of blacks and whites was perceived as one of the more pressing concerns. Some respondents noted that the degree of citizen apathy was in need of reduction from its seemingly high state. Others felt that the unity of the people as well as that of the various communities in the county was necessary.

The area ranked fifth was Planning and Zoning. It is believed that this need specification shows a growing concern among citizens about the future of Anson County. Improvements in the standard of housing were mentioned as the most pressing need in this area. Other responses included, "limit the growth of outsiders," "attract young people," and, "stop out-migration."

Rating sixth as needed for Anson County was Recreation. Most respondents suggested that more recreational facilities and activities should be provided in the county. One respondent suggested that funds should be available for parks in each of Anson's various communities.

Finally, ranking seventh and eighth respectively, were areas titled Government and Transportation. In the area of Government, the respondents perceived that the quality of local leaders was in need of improvement. For the area of Transportation, the improvement of Anson County's roads was the respondent's concern.

Nature of the Leadership Structure

A variety of attributes characterized the "leadership structure" interviewed in Anson County. The panel included current county commissioners, mayors, the county attorney, the sheriff, a county school superintendent, the county health director, prominent business and industrial leaders, and the County Extension Chairman. In addition to information or organizational participation, personal demographic data, and the number and nature of contacts in three developmental areas (economic, health, recreation), each respondent was also asked to rank the three individuals in each county who were the most important leaders in each general development area. The rank score is achieved by summing the following: a three for each nomination as the most important; a two for each nomination as second most important; and, a one for each third most important nomination. In Anson, the total range of rank scores in all areas is from 0 to 40, with a mean score of 10.

The data on rank scores reveals interesting results. For example, government officials, in general, were not seen by associates on the panel as having great influence.

Another interesting facet of the data is that in each of the three developmental areas, a majority of those panel members receiving the higher rank scores (hence top influentials) are in the business-industrial sector (occupational sectors). For example, six of the nine top influentials in the development area of economics listed business-industrial oriented occupations. For the area of Recreation, six of the ten top ranked people are in this sector while for health, four of the eight ranked were business-industrial. These findings conform to a hypothesis offered by Terry Clark (1968) which states that communities with a rapidly increasing employment base will have

an increasing and especially active industrial sector.* That is to say, as such a situation arises, top executives and/or owners of the new and existing economic and industrial concerns would increasingly populate the community power structure. Such would seem the case in Anson County.

Several interesting demographic characteristics of those "influentials" were noted. For example, the average Social participation score was 48.6. A social participation score is derived by taking the number of groups or organizations each respondent was a member of and assigning a score for whether or not the individual was an official or not in the organization and the degree of participation in that organization. The higher the social participation score the more active the individual. Respondents averaged 13.5 memberships in organizations. For the total sample, 47.6 percent of these memberships were in civic organizations, 52.4 percent were in professional organizations. This would be in line with the professional and civic activities and responsibilities that community leaders often engage themselves in.

As noted earlier, the occupational sector most represented in the survey was the business-industrial. Of the 29 individuals in the sample, 16 or 55 percent were in this occupational group. The remainder of the respondents were distributed in five other categories: (1) county government, 4 (13.8%); (2) medical and related services, 2 (6.9%), and miscellaneous, mainly housewives, 3 (10.3%).

We can conclude that the leadership structure of Anson County is extremly active, both socially and professionally, is highly oriented in business and industry, and, split into highly ranked versus lowly

*Clark, Terry, Community Structure and Decision-Making: A Comparative Analysis, San Francisco: Chandler Press, 1968.

ranked influentials by their associates. With an increasing emphasis on industrial expansion, these conclusions are hardly surprising.

Table 1. Population of Anson County, Total and by White and Nonwhite, 1950-1970.

Year	Total	White	Nonwhite
1950	26,781	13,953	13,008
1960	24,962	12,989	11,973
1970	23,488	12,541	10,947

Table 2. Anson County: Percent Changes in Population, Total, White and Nonwhite, 1950-1970.

Year	Total	White	Nonwhite
1950-1960	+1.52	-2.50	+4.52
1960-1970	-4.78	-0.79	-7.55
1950-1970	-3.26	-3.29	-3.03

Table 3. Urban-Rural Distribution of Anson County Population, 1950-1970.

Year	Urban	Rural-Farm	Rural-Nonfarm
1950	3,402	12,801	10,578
1960	3,745	5,816	15,401
1970	3,970	1,926	17,592

Table 4. Rural-Urban Population in Anson County, with Percent of Change, 1950-1960, 1960-1970, 1950-1970.

Year	Urban	Rural-Farm	Rural-Nonfarm
1950-1960	+10.11	-54.57	+13.43
1960-1970	+ 6.01	-66.88	+14.23
1950-1970	+16.12	-121.45	+27.66

Table 5. Age Distribution by Quinquennial Categories, Anson County, 1950-1970.

	1950	%	1960	%	1970	%
Total	26,781	1.0	24,962	1.0	23,488	1.0
Under 5	3,579	.134	2,934	.118	2,146	.091
5-9	3,196	.119	3,195	.128	2,316	.099
10-14	2,901	.108	3,136	.123	2,583	.110
15-19	2,504	.093	2,359	.095	2,511	.107
20-24	1,985	.074	1,210	.048	1,566	.067
25-29	1,934	.072	1,183	.047	1,264	.054
30-34	1,690	.063	1,390	.056	1,047	.046
35-39	1,688	.063	1,564	.063	1,069	.046
40-44	1,415	.053	1,429	.059	1,293	.055
45-49	1,275	.048	1,345	.054	1,345	.057
50-54	1,149	.043	1,113	.046	1,340	.057
55-59	1,006	.038	1,054	.042	1,225	.052
50-64	834	.031	880	.035	1,065	.045
65-69	696	.026	871	.035	938	.040
70-74	423	.016	568	.023	743	.032
75-84	422	.016	574	.023	834	.035
85 and over	84	.003	107	.004	203	.009

Table 6. Male-Female Population Distribution in Anson County for 1950, 1960, 1970.

Year	Total	Male	Female
1950	26,781	13,029	13,752
1960	24,962	12,110	12,852
1970	23,488	11,248	12,240

Table 7. Anson County: Median School Years Completed by Males and Females, Age 25 and Over, for 1950, 1960, 1970.

Year	Male	Female
1950	7.0	7.9
1960	7.7	8.9
1970	8.7	10.0

Table 8. *Anson County Manufacturing Concerns with 25 or More Employees, 1973.

Name of Company	Product	Year Est.	Employees Male	Female
Little Mfg. Co.	Cotton Yarns	1892	50	150
W. R. Bonsal	Sand & Gravel	1905	85	5
B. V. Hedrick	Sand & Gravel	1921	65	5
Wade Mfg. Co.	Textile Dyeing & Fin.	1923	270	180
West Knitting Corp.	Knit Underwear	1928	100	350
McLeod Plywood	Plywood	1938	150	25
Polkton Mfg. Co.	Shirts	1938	20	140
Balket Hosiery Co.	Seamless Hosiery	1940	50	350
Hornwood, Inc.	Synthetic Fabrics	1945	50	60
Abbey Mfg. Co.	Ladies Dresses	1957	10	70
Wansona Mfg. Corp.	Textile Dyeing & Fin.	1964	100	50
Duff-Norton Co.	Metal Working	1965	90	4
Berwick Classics	Women's Dresses	1967	2	35
Southern Fabricators,Inc.	Custom Metal Working	1968	35	1
Meyers Yarns, Inc.	Textile Yarns	1970	20	50
Cory Knit Mills	Textile-Shirts	1970	3	65
Anson Shirt Co.	Shirts	1971	10	70
Glenn Mfg. Corp.	Textile-Draperies	1972	15	70
Schult Mobile Homes	Mobile homes	1972	40	1
Wul-Zenco	Textile-Patterns	1972	25	10
Kenville, Inc.	Textile-Synthetic	1972	50	50

*From History of Anson County, North Carolina 1750-1976, Mary L. Mudley, Wadesboro, N. C., Anson County Historical Society, 1976, p. 179.

Table 9. Anson County Employment of Persons 16 Years and Over by Industry, 1970.

Type	North Carolina	Percent	Anson	Percen
Total	1,984,402		8,343	
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, and Mining	108,421	5.5	850	10.2
Construction	133,545	6.7	631	7.6
Manufacturing	704,306	35.5	3,291	46.0
Transportation, Communication, Utilities and Sanitary Services	109,063	5.5	163	2.0
Wholesale and Retail Trade	347,589	17.5	918	11.0
Banking, Insurance, Real Estate, Business, and Repair Service	110,390	5.6	225	2.7
Services	118,622	6.0	237	2.8
Health, Education, Welfare and Kindred Services	249,818	12.6	608	7.3
Legal, Engineering, and Miscellaneous Services	32,818	1.7	51	.6
Public Administration	69,830	3.5	122	1.5

Table D.9, pp. 182-183, Statistical Abstract, North Carolina State Government, Research and Development Section of the Division of State Budget and Management, Raleigh, North Carolina, 1976.

Table 10. Anson County and North Carolina: Median Family Income for 1950, 1960, and 1970, With Percent of Change 1950-1960 and 1960-1970.

	1950	1960	% Change 1950-60	1970	% Change 1960-70
Anson County	1,371	2,763	+102.0	6,013	+118.0
North Carolina	1,293	3,956	+205.0	7,774	+ 96.5

Table 11. Anson County and North Carolina: Percent of All Families Below the Poverty Level, 1970.

	% of Families Below Poverty Level
Anson County	27.2
North Carolina	16.3

Table 12. Anson County: Number Employed by Occupational Group for 1950, 1960, 1970.

Type	1950	1960	1970
Professional, Technical & Kindred	440	525	565
Farmers, Farm Managers	2,110	912	206
Managers, Officials	466	332	500
Clerical and Kindred Workers	297	443	709
Sales Workers	375	350	282
Craftsmen, Foremen	671	712	1,126
Operatives and Kindred Workers	1,952	2,083	2,985
Service Workers	270	383	581
Farm Laborers	630	511	297
Laborers, Except Farm	561	758	698
Private Household Workers	484	666	394
Total Employed	8,380	8,001	8,343

Table 13. Major Sources of Family Income, Anson County, 1970.

Type	Number of Families	Mean Wage
With Wage or Salary Income	4,805	$6,457
With Non-Farm Self-Employment Income	659	4,724
With Farm Self-Employment Income	377	2,832
With Social Security Income	1,298	1,293
With Public Assistance or Public Welfare	371	995
With Other Income	494	2,624

Table 14. Anson County: What Respondents Liked Best About the County (S-120 Project).

Rank		Number of Mentions
1	Relationships and Attitudes	25
2	Geography and Climate	16
3	Quality of Life	14
4	Economic	9
5	Area and Family Ties	5

Table 15. Rank Order of Needs, Anson County.

Rank		Number of Mentions
1	Economic	25
2	Health, Social, and Public Services	22
3	Education	7
4	Community Relations	9
5	Planning and Zoning	8
6	Recreation	6
7	Government	2
8	Transportation	1